





# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## SELECTMEN & AUDITORS

UPON THE

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

New Hampshire  
STATE LIBRARY,  
JUL 3 1896

OF THE

TOWN OF PLYMOUTH,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1875.

PLYMOUTH, N. H.

V. N. BASS, PRINTER AND STATIONER.

1875.



## REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

*The Selectmen in account with the Town of Plymouth for the year  
ending March 1, 1875.*

**Dr.**

To cash received for town notes given,	\$21,650 77
“ “ of the State Treasurer for Railroad, Literary and Bank tax,	1,784 00
“ “ of State Treasurer for bounty claims,	96 00
“ “ “ “ for sales of N. H. State Bonds,	7,500 00
“ “ “ “ for interest on N. H. State Bonds,	383 84
“ “ of J. T. Langdon in settlement of the claims of the town against the Selectmen of 1868—9,	153 00
“ “ of J. & N. Tompkinson on note,	50 00
“ “ of the town of Alexandria for pauper claim,	17 95
“ “ “ Enfield “ “	362 89
“ “ “ Bridgewater “ “	44 12
“ “ “ Campton “ “	39 10
“ “ of County Treasurer for liquor fines,	125 00
“ “ “ “ for support of Mrs. Bruce,	132 00
“ “ “ “ for support of transient paupers;	29 70
“ “ of town of Holderness for lighting the Pem. Bridge,	14 20
“ “ of Joseph Clark on settlement in March, 1874,	16
	\$32,382 73

**Cr.**

paid the Town Treasurer,

\$32,382 73

# TREASURER'S REPORT.

CYRUS KENISTON, *Treasurer,*

*In account with the town of Plymouth, 1874.*

**Dr.**

To assssment of State, County, Town, and School	
Taxes on residents,	\$10,342 32
"    "    "    "    Town, School and	
Highway Taxes on non-residents,	237 60
"    of Tax on Dogs,	82 00
"    of Special Tax in District No. 2,	623 40
To uncollected Taxes in hands of Collector of 1869,	109 26
"    "    "    "    1870,	78 99
"    "    "    "    1871,	333 05
"    "    "    "    1872,	144 45
"    "    "    "    1873,	800 00
To cash in hands of Treasurer March 1st, 1874.	192 60
"    received of the Selectmen of 1874,	32,382 73
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	\$45,326 40

CYRUS KENISTON, *Treasurer,*

*In account with the Town of Plymouth, 1874.*

**Cr.**

By paid abatement of taxes assessed in 1869,	\$79 97
"    "    "    "    1872,	69 87
"    "    "    "    1873,	48 42
"    "    "    "    1874,	128 04
B. W. Sanborn & Co. for blank books and blanks,	17 35
Calvin Clark for books for use of the town,	7 88
L. M. Howe for stationery, postage and express,	4 65
John H. Gill for services as committee on	
burial places,	2 00
Henry W. Blair for stone posts for Cemetery,	104 00
C. C. Moulton & Co. for frame and glass for	
Cemetery Plan,	2 25
Drury F. Cummings for labor on Cemetery,	14 50
J. T. Cutter for trimmings and work on	
gates of Cemetery,	1 53
Jacob Sellingham work on Cemetery fence,	3 80
Samuel E. Merrill, pickets for "    "	36 78

"	Wm. H. Hill, marble for the tomb in 1872,	6 00
"	George W. Little, services as Superintendent of Cemetery,	5 00
"	John T. Cutter, " "	10 00
"	James Keeble, use of hearse,	49 85
"	James Keeble, varnishing hearse,	2 50
"	Arthur L. Kimball, painting hearse,	12 00
"	Coupons,	2,289 15
"	Notes against the town taken up,	31,160 81
"	Endorsed on notes against the town,	507 48
"	Henry Wells, wood for widow C. B. Adams,	22 50
"	N. H. Asylum for the Insane, support of Adams, Currier and Shute,	684 04
"	expense of sending the money,	74
"	town of Charlestown, support of Solon Currier,	6 00
"	Alonzo K. Bruce, keeping Mrs. Bruce,	162 00
"	Addie M. Choate, taking care of E. A. Choate,	63 94
"	Jona. L. Clay, care and necessities for	234 97
"	I. A. Dana, medical attendance	4 00
"	I. A. Sanborn, " " " "	55 50
"	Sarah Gilford, support of Mary Gilford,	45 00
"	Fox & Dearborn, supplies for Timo'y Hammond,	13 89
"	Cyrus Keniston, " " "	6 66
"	John Mason, " " "	23 72
"	George Reed, " " "	2 25
"	Jona. Ferren, board and supplies for Melvina Kimball,	205 48
"	Cyrus Keniston, goods for " "	95
"	Martin V. Dickey, board of Geo. W. Lovejoy,	7 50
"	Moses Pervier, board of Nettie Lovejoy,	6 00
"	County of Grafton, support of James Moses,	46 00
"	S. W. Davis, medical attendance for Andrew Mack,	3 00
"	L. M. Howe, assistance furn'd " "	9 15
"	Hiram Clark, supplies for Timothy Hammond and T. H. Mudgett,	3 00
"	J. W. Preston, medical attendance for Thos. H. Mudgett,	12 50
"	Arthur Ward, supplies for " "	11 00
"	Etkins Willey, board of " "	14 00
"	William Webber, assistance,	208 00
"	Hanson S. Chase, wood for William Webber,	10 00
"	L. M. Howe, wood and clothing for " "	38 75
"	Cyrus Keniston, flour for " "	10 00
"	Cornelius Dougherty, house rent and wood for William Webber,	68 00
"	S. W. Davis, medical attendance for Mrs. W. Webber,	4 00



Calvin Clark, services and expenses to Franklin, medicine and affidavit taken for transient paupers,	15 40
Charles E. Sanborn, keeping transient persons,	29 00
Buchanan & Willis, " "	8 50
Rufus Hammond, " "	2 25
L. M. Howe, assistance to " "	8 68
Joseph Clark, services as superintendent of Cemetery, and prosecuting liquor sellers,	96 36
Harry Bingham, services as attorney,	40 00
Manson S. Brown, services as sheriff and paid out prosecuting liquor sellers,	105 03
Hiram Clark, services as Justice of the Peace,	30 76
Hiram Clark, services as liquor agent,	62 72
Manson S. Brown, police services at the Fair,	6 00
John Chandler, " " "	6 00
George H. Corliss, " " "	4 00
Charles H. Morrill, public watering trough and gravel for highway,	6 00
B. F. Gould, public watering trough,	3 00
Reuben Robie, " "	2 00
Drury E. Cummings, public watering trough and surveying,	4 00
E. H. Gove, painting guide boards,	1 50
A. L. Kimball, " "	1 25
Isaac M. Merrill, making and putting up guide boards,	4 00
C. A. Dole, copy of record of Highway,	2 00
Amos Clark, removing fence opposite highway,	4 25
Jona. J. Nutting, use of land for winter road two years,	20 00
Kimball Whitney, use of land for winter road,	2 00
Timothy Cheney, painting ends of Bakers' River Bridge,	3 00
Cyrus Keniston, paint for " "	1 88
B. C. & M. Railroad, brick and cement for sewer,	112 80
Calvin Clark, labor on, and paid out for Hobart Bridge,	120 78
George Whicher, tools and splitting stone, for Hobart Bridge,	12 50
Andrew Lyman and F. A. Davis, labor on Hobart Bridge,	20 00
Daniel Dearborn, labor " "	4 00
Christopher M. Palmer, splitting stone for Hobart Bridge,	10 00
Jasper E. Avery, breaking roads,	11 10

"	David R. Bartlett, " " and over work,	5 26
"	Wm. D. Blodgett, " " "	11 40
"	John X. Brown, work on the highway,	5 00
"	John Buchanan, breaking roads,	6 50
"	Jona. L. Clay, " "	10 30
"	R. B. Clark, " "	2 00
"	David B. Clement, bridge plank,	10 58
"	Kimball B. Corliss, breaking roads,	33 93
"	Wm. A. Draper, breaking roads and cutting bushes,	10 20
"	Almon M. Favor, breaking roads,	2 35
"	Rufus Foster, materials and labor on bridges,	8 00
"	Washington George, plank and oak staples,	2 56
"	John H. Gill, work on the highway,	2 28
"	Drury E. Holmes, timber for culvert railing,	5 00
"	E. D. Hall, work on highway and lumber for bridges,	15 57
"	William Harriman, breaking roads,	12 90
"	Samuel F. Jewell, " "	3 75
"	Benjamin Kidder, breaking roads and over-work,	34 90
"	Benjamin Kidder, work on bridges and highway,	9 35
"	Geo. W. Garland, " "	6 50
"	Wm. H. Martin, breaking roads,	6 00
"	H. W. Marshall, " "	24 00
"	Marshall & Kenyon, extra work on highway,	7 00
"	Charles H. Morrill, plank for the highway,	9 50
"	Charles H. Morrill, " bridge in 1873,	9 00
"	Frank P. Morse, breaking roads,	40 58
"	F. A. B. Nichols, plank for highway,	4 15
"	John Nutting, breaking roads and labor on highway,	45 86
"	Noah J. Nutting, breaking roads and drawing plank,	8 25
"	James A. Penniman, breaking roads,	57 07
"	Moses Pervier, work on highway,	8 88
"	Winfield S. Robinson, breaking roads,	9 00
"	Reuben Robie, breaking roads and gravel,	5 00
"	John T. Sauborn, work on highway fixing entrance to his house,	10 00
"	H. L. Sargent, breaking roads,	4 80
"	James G. Smith, " "	22 25
"	Andrew R. Smith, over-work on highway,	63 50
"	Enos Stevens, work on highway and breaking roads,	6 01
"	E. K. Smith, breaking out sidewalks,	15 60
"	Alexander G. Smyth, work on highway,	16 37
"	Wm. Webster, relaying culvert,	12 74



"	Wm. Webster, breaking roads,	14 53
"	Henry Wells, work on highway,	4 35
"	Edwin S. Weeks, breaking roads,	5 50
"	Chas. H. Wilkinson, covering stones,	5 00
"	Philander Wood, work and plank for highway,	1 09
"	Joseph S. Yeaton, breaking roads,	10 35
"	New England Gas-light Co., bridge lamps,	25 31
"	Alden Dias, stands for bridge lights,	6 75
"	Perley Fawcett, tending bridge lights,	3 00
"	Moses Sargent, " "	2 00
"	Payne Brothers, oil cans for bridge lights,	1 50
"	Webster, Hull & Co., nails and oil for bridges,	7 79
"	Hiram W. Merrill, damage from water caused by the highway,	15 00
"	Timothy E. Bayley, damage to sleigh on the highway,	1 50
"	Josiah Brown, " " "	1 75
"	A. J. Pebbles, working out non-resident highway tax,	2 25
"	Joseph Huckins, " " "	75
"	A. L. & W. G. Brown & Co., lumber for bridges,	178 50
"	Fox & Dearborn, shingle for Smith's Bridge,	2 63
"	Eugene S. Bailey, work on bridges,	46 87
"	Alouzo Easiman, " "	3 75
"	John Mason, nails for "	13 66
"	Van N. Bass, printing reports and blanks,	38 00
"	Van N. Bass, blank books and stationery,	21 29
"	J. W. Preston, services as supt. school com.,	55 00
"	S. W. Davis, printing and posting sch'l notices,	2 50
"	School money to the school districts,	1,430 50
"	Literary and dog money, "	164 79
"	Literary money to Dist. No. 7, for the year 1873,	15 00
"	Special taxes in Dist. No. 2,	650 58
"	State tax,	1,292 00
"	County tax,	1,380 18
"	Express on same,	1 00
"	Benjamin Atkinson, wood for Town Hall,	5 00
"	James L. Rogers, rent of "	55 00
"	F. W. A. Robie, fuel and care of "	15 00
"	F. W. A. Robie, services as town clerk,	50 00
"	Calvin Clark, services as selectman and expenses paid out,	172 20
"	Geo. W. Garland, services as selectman,	113 15
"	L. M. Howe, " "	135 00
"	L. M. Howe, services as overseer of the Poor,	30 00
"	George S. Armstrong, for horse and buggy used by the selectmen,	3 50

"	W. W. Wilkinson, part pay as collector,	150 00
"	" " paid out for postage,	1 00
"	Cyrus Keniston, services as Treasurer,	100 00
"	Dahiel H. Currier and W. W. Gibson, services as auditors,	5 00
Taxes in E. K. Smith's hands, coll. for 1869,		
	Mar. 1, 1875,	29 29
Taxes in D. C. Wheeler's hands, coll. for 1870,		
	Mar. 1, 1875,	78 99
Taxes in " " " for 1871,		
	Mar. 1, 1875,	333 05
Taxes in Wm. G. Rogers' hands coll. for 1872,		
	Mar. 1, 1875,	44 58
Taxes in W. W. Wilkinson's hands, coll. for 1874,		
	Mar. 1, 1875,	645 71
Cash in hands of the Treasurer,		64 24
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		\$45,326 40

We have examined the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer for the year ending March 1, 1875, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

D. H. CURRIER, }  
W. W. GIBSON, } Auditors.

## REPORT

*Of the Overseer of the Poor for the Year ending March 1st, 1875.*

		Cr.
By paid for the support of Timo Hammond,		\$53 37
“ “ Mrs. Folsom,		17 95
“ “ Edward A. Choate,		362 89
“ “ Thos. H. Mudgett,		39 10
“ “ Mary Gilford,		45 00
“ “ James Moses,		46 00
“ “ Mrs. Bruce,		162 00
“ “ Melvina Kimball,		206 43
“ “ Wm. Webber and wife,		338 75
“ “ Geo. Levejon and daughter,		13 50
“ “ Currier, Shute and Adams		
at N. H. Insane Asylum,		692 08
“ for wood furnished Md. C. B. Adams,		22 50
“ for support of Andrew Mack,		10 55
“ support of transient paupers,		42 93
		<hr/> \$2,053 05

		Dr.
By cash of Bridgewater for support of T. Hammond,		\$53 37
“ Alexandria “ Mrs. Folsom,		17 93
“ Enfield, “ Ed. A. Choate,		362 89
“ Campton. “ Thos. H. Mudgett,		39 10
“ Town Treasurer “ James Moses,		46 00
“ “ “ Mrs. Bruce,		132 00
“ “ “ transient paupers,		29 70
		<hr/> \$681 01
Orders paid by the Town Treasurer,		1,372 04
		<hr/> \$2053 05



## INDEBTEDNESS OF THE TOWN MARCH 1, 1875.

Notes and interest on do. to March 1, 1875,	26,093 87
Outstanding coupons,	158 00
Literary and Dog money due Dist. No. 7,	18 31
Dog money due Union Dists.,	4 91
Due N. H. Ins. Asylum for support of Currier and Shute,	45 00
“ town of Franklin for support of paupers,	30 00
“ Supt. School Com. for services in 1874-5,	55 00
“ individuals for sheep killed by dogs.	69 00
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	\$26,474 09

## ASSETS MARCH 1, 1875.

Due from collector of 1869,	\$29 29
“ “ “ 1870,	78 99
“ “ “ 1871.	333 05
“ “ “ 1872,	44 58
“ “ “ 1874.	645 71
“ “ Laconia for paupers,	45 00
“ “ the County for paupers,	40 55
“ on J. F. & W. F. Langdon's note,	790 40
“ on J. & N. Tomkinson note, bal.,	61 59
Liquors and casks in hands of Agent,	80 19
Cart, Plow, Chain and Sled,	50 00
Cash in the hands of the Treasurer,	64 24
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	\$2,263 59

## REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN.

Amount paid for the support of the Poor, over what received from other towns and the county,	\$1,372 09
“ paid for highways and bridges over the highway tax,	1,300 00
“ paid for interest on the town debt,	1,500 00
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	\$4,172 00

L. M. HOWE,	} Selectmen
CALVIN CLARK,	
G. W. GARLAND,	
	of
	Plymouth.

# SCHOOL REPORT.

*To the Selectmen of the Town of Plymouth;*

GENTLEMEN: In submitting the following report I beg leave to preface my remarks by a tabular statement of many facts, which ought to be of interest to every tax-payer in town, and can be stated in no other way so concisely.

Districts.		TEACHERS.	Amount of money.	Summer or Winter.	No attending to													
					Weeks of schooling.	Wages of teacher per month, including board.	Whole number of Scholars.	Average attendance.	Instances of tardiness.	Instances of dismissal.	Number not absent ½ day.	Number of visits of Supt. School Committee.	Number visits of Prudential Committee.	Reading and Spelling.	Penmanship.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.
1	Horace Perkins.	Mary C. Currier.	\$ 128 83	S.	8 20 00	24 21.	36	14	3	3	3	0 24	13 17	12	5	7	5	0
2	L. M. Howe.	Augusta C. Sargent.	611 15	W.	11 24 00	19 14	40	11	2	2	2	0 19	12 17	12	7	1	7	0
		Not Reported																
3	Saml. P. Fletcher.	Anna G. Clement.	W.	8 29 00	19 13	59	22	3	3	3	3	1 16	7 9	4	1	0		
4	W. H. Adams.	Henry M. Morse.	W.	8 29 00	18 12	8	9	3	3	3	3	1 18	13 17	7	6	1		
5	Joseph Yeaton.	Emma Merrill.	W.	139 83	19 15	136	8	3	3	3	3	1 19	13 17	9	6	7		
		Amelia P. Handy.	S.	76 78	18 15	53	2	2	2	2	2	1 18	11 13	11	4	0		
		Louise V. George.	S.	70 28	20 17	23	6	1	6	6	6	0 26	13 18	14	2	6		
6	John Sanborn.	Charlotte E. Dearborn.	S.	10 30	00 26	23	50	14	6	3	3	0 26	13 18	14	2	6		
		Ada E. Howe.	W.	9 30	00 29	24	48	9	6	3	3	0 29	7 14	6	3	2		
		Florence V. Nutting.	W.	8 16	00 11	9	8	0	2	2	2	1 11	6 7	7	1	4		
7	Benj. Kidder.	do.	W.	10 20	00 13	11	14	2	2	2	2	0 13	10 12	9	2	0		
		Lizzie S. Harris.	W.	9 25	00 12	10	90	12	2	2	2	0 12	9 11	5	4	3		
		do.	W.	8 26	00 20	14	26	5	4	3	3	0 20	9 14	5	1			
8	N. D. Melvin.	Mary E. Connell.	W.	8 26	00 19	13	18	2	4	3	3	0 19	12 15	6	3	3		
		Mary E. Wilder.	S.	124 38	00 19	18	18	2	9	3	3	0 19	14 14	14	4	4		
9	Alfred Cook.	N. Ella Dickinson.	W.	8 24	00 19	18	18	2	9	3	3	0 19	14 14	14	4	4		
		Clara T. Clark.	S.	9 24	00 19	18	27	2	5	2	2	0 19	13 13	13	3	1		
12	J. S. Morrison.	do.	W.	112 04	00 19	18	27	2	5	2	2	0 19	13 13	13	3	1		

The work of the past year in our schools has as a whole been unsatisfactory and the general tone and elevation of the schools have fallen far below what seems to me ought to be expected from a town so favorably located and spending so much school money as Plymouth. Improvement has been marked and well deserved in some of the districts and by some of the teachers, while anarchy and confusion have reigned in other districts throughout the year. There has seemed to be a decided lack with some of the teachers, of love for their work. Too many have appeared to think too much of getting through the day and closing the school *promptly* at four o'clock, and too little of *how* the days work had been done and what had been accomplished.

Some *like* to teach and such succeed; others try to persuade themselves to endure the pangs of the school room for six mortal hours only for the reward in greenbacks. The first class give all their time and talent to the work of the schoolroom, while the latter try only to pass examination enough to obtain a certificate and then drift through the term, the school a bore to themselves and they a bore to the scholars.

Some eagerly welcome nine o'clock in the morning, while others more eagerly watch the setting sun and hail their day's work as done. And this second class ask to be called *teachers*!

Owing to circumstances which I am unable fully to explain, four of the districts have had more or less trouble in their schools. In some cases blame was partly on the part of the teacher, but in all there might have been better schools had the parents attended to their children at home and given them to understand fully and decidedly that they must obey all the rules of the school. Parents tolerate those same qualities in their children at home



which if carried into the school room, and permitted to go unchecked will soon destroy all school order, and if a child is corrected he is then taken from the school.'

This is wrong. The child is not in fault. He is the creature of his parents and imbibes their thoughts and ways, and they are responsible for many of their child's misdemeanors.

Again parents take little or no interest in the schools. Few ever visit the school to see for themselves what kind of matter the teacher is placing before the young scholar. They obtain all their knowledge from what the children tell at home, and I have noticed that children who "tell tales out of school" almost always tell only the bad stories. Few children tell how good, kind or true the teacher has been through the day or how much useful knowledge he has given for their benefit. For this reason if for no other parents should often inspect their children's schools.

Prudential Committees should make frequent visits and give words of advice or encouragement to the teacher: yet only three in the town have visited their schools during the past year.

I wish still further to call attention to the legal duties of the several Prudential committees. The law plainly states that "The prudential committee shall *select* and hire teachers for the district \* \* *notify* the superintending school committee of the commencement and close of the schools and give them such information and assistance as may be necessary for the performance of their duties." (*G. S.*, page 167, §14.) Also "No person shall be *employed* or paid for services as a teacher unless he shall produce and deliver to the prudential committee a certificate of the school committee of the town \* \* \* that he is well qualified to instruct youth in the branches to be taught in such

schools." (*G. S., page 169, §5.*) Note a.—"Until such certificate has been delivered to the prudential committee or offered to him, the person employed has no right to *wages* and no *authority*." In the face of all this it seems to me that our prudential committees have something to do besides speaking to some person to teach their school, neglecting all other duties. Yet this has generally been the case for the past year, and had not the time for the beginning and close of the schools been ascertained from the teachers several might have passed unnoticed. This is not as it should be. Persons who are elected to the office and accept the same, have some work to do, and they solemnly make oath before God to discharge the duties of the office to the best of their abilities. One of two things is certain, either they are woefully ignorant of what is required of them, (and for such the law is inserted that they may read,) or they come under that class in our courts, who are not to be believed under oath. Either horn of this dilemma is unpleasant to accept. These officers have still other duties to perform outside of just the letter of the law. They ought to look after the general interests of the district and scholars, to make inquiry into the condition of the schools, their needs and necessities, and consult occasionally with the general committee so as to "give *them* such assistance and information as may be necessary for the performance of their duties." This officer lives in his own district and should be better acquainted in regard to the matters of his own school than a man living in a remote part of the town, and he should advise the town committee as to the wants of his school. Occasional visits from him would be a good stimulus to the school, and he should make them when unexpected. The visit from the town committee is watched for and evaded some-

times by those unruly boys who need visiting the most, and the school shows a better condition than really exists.

Another item of law, which is considered of such importance by the State authorities that they have caused it to be printed on the cover of every Register, is this: "Every teacher, at the close of his school, and at the end of each term thereof shall make a return of such Register to the school committee of the town, who shall give to him a certificate therefor, and no teacher shall *receive payment* for his services until such certificate is produced and delivered to the prudential committee." (*G. S. c. 81, § 15.*) This law has been complied with in only *one* district during the past year. Money is drawn from the treasury and paid to the teacher whenever the committee see fit to do it; the teacher goes away and the register is not returned. But the law requires me to make a report to the State and this report must be based upon the several district registers. State money for schooling purposes is divided to the several towns upon statements found in this report, so that if one district fails to make a return, and the facts are lost, the whole town suffers.

In District No. 1, the summer term was a total failure. I saw smoking and heard swearing in the school-yard at recess, which the teacher said she was unable to correct. In the winter the school passed a good examination but order was very poor. In my note-book is found this note made while visiting No. 3 for the first time. "A very disorderly school—hard work ahead for the teacher—whispering and noise in abundance; some ignorant and need thrashing before teaching." The teacher for the summer labored hard but with some scholars little progress was made. Many were absent when visited the second time. Winter term began with



Mr. M—— as teacher, but matters getting too complicated for him the engagement was canceled by mutual consent at the end of three weeks. The term was then finished by Miss M——, and very marked improvement could be seen in every part of the school. Thoroughness in teaching and good order was obtained.

The school house absolutely needs extensive repairs. It is unfit to be used as a school-room.

No. 4 has a pleasant, well arranged school. Only nine weeks schooling for the year, yet the scholarship ranks well with other districts. Both teacher and scholars deserve credit for making it a profitable term.

No. 5 gave general satisfaction both at the first and last visits. Everything was quiet and the best order observed. School well classified. This was Miss H.'s first school and she proved a very successful teacher.

No. 6 secured the services of two able and experienced teachers. In the summer some whispering was noticed and criticised. An improvement could be seen at the close of the term. In the fall the school was very orderly at the time of both visits. Marked improvement in the school during the year. House needs repairing. A very shabby thing to be called a school house.

No. 7 is a union district with Hebron. The scholars are collected in one of the worst pens, for a school house, I ever saw. It was dangerous going in and out on account of the decayed floor. The teacher was obliged to close the school early in November, not being able to keep the room warm enough to be comfortable. Nevertheless under all these discouragements, Miss N. taught a good school.

No. 8 was not a success in government while under the instruction of Miss H. She labored hard

to instruct but failed in discipline. Parents failed to assist as much as they might have done, in keeping an orderly school.

No. 9 has a good house, but it has been abused by the scholars. The order in the school was not the best but Miss Wilder developed a very fine ability for imparting knowledge to her scholars. With a larger experience she will rank high as a teacher. This was her first term, yet she had a fund of knowledge from which to draw, not found in the text books. In the winter the school began prosperously, but the teacher became discouraged in the work and the term drew languidly to a close.

No. 12 was well organized at the beginning of the first term and continued to improve so that both terms were of great profit to the school. Text books were badly mixed. This was partially remedied so that in the place of *six* classes in Geography only four existed in the school the second term. The school in this district is good evidence that we should retain the same teacher for as many terms as possible. First get good teachers, then keep them.

No change of text books has been advised during the year, but an earnest effort to systematise those found in the schools has been made. Some difficulties have been encountered in this work such as the prejudice of some against any change and the poverty of others who are unable to procure the necessary books for their children.

The Grammar now in use in most of the schools is decidedly out of date, and the scholars have voluntarily changed, in two districts, for Swinton's series. I recommend to my successor that a uniform change in this text book be made the coming year. This change has the approval of the Superintendents of all the neighboring towns.

A few dollars expended for wall maps would be of great benefit to the pupils. Black-boards are needed in every school house in town. There is not *one* suitable black-board in any school room I have visited.

Chalk is a stranger to many of the school rooms except as we see it on the ceiling or other improper places. Very much might be done to give a thorough and practical education to the rising generation, by furnishing some of these aids to the teachers and pupils.

Respectfully submitted,

S. W. DAVIS, *Superintending Com.*

Plymouth, March 1, 1875.





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